

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 13536 01 OF 02 151729Z

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 NEA-07 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07

NSC-06 /037 W

-----041489 151733Z /44

R 151525Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSSTATE 8317

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 CAIRO 13536

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (SIKES, ROBERT L. F.) EG

SUBJECT: CODEL SIKES MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT

SUMMARY. IN AUGUST 14 MEETING WITH CODEL SIKES, SADAT URGED U.S. PAY GREATER ATTENTION TO AFRICA AND SAID IT ESSENTIAL THIS BE DONE WITH DISPATCH. PRESIDENT VIEWED MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AS DISTRACTING EGYPT FROM FULFILLING ITS ROLE IN AFRICA. BLAMED QADAHFI FOR ALL SOVIET PENETRATIONS ON CONTINENT. CODEL ASSURED PRESIDENT THAT MOOD IN CONGRESS CHANGING, US PREPARED RESUME LEADERSHIP ROLE. END SUMMARY.

1. CONGRESSMAN SIKES, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR, MET WITH PRESIDENT SADAT FOR ONE HOUR ON AUGUST 14 IN ALEXANDRIA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 13536 01 OF 02 151729Z

THE CONGRESSMAN BEGAN THE MEETING BY CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT SADAT ON HIS LEADERSHIP, NOTING THAT THE WORLD NEEDS SADAT AS MUCH AS ANY MAN ALIVE.

2. IN RESPONSE, PRESIDENT SADAT EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION AND PRIDE IN HAVING THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. CONTINUING, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THAT THE PRESENT TIME

OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE PEACE AND THE UNITED STATES CAN ASSIST THIS "100 PERCENT." THE SITUATION, HE SAID, IS VERY RIPE FOR A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. CONGRESSMAN SIKES AGREED AND SAID WE MUST PRESS AHEAD NOW. THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE ARAB NATION, WANTS PEACE AND THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED.

3. PRESIDENT SADAT EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR PRESIDENT CARTER AS A MAN OF GREAT MORAL PRINCIPLE AND SAID THAT THERE ARE NO BILATERAL DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN US. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT EGYPT IS FACING PROBLEMS NOT ONLY WITH RESPECT TO THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT IN AFRICA AS WELL. CONGRESSMAN SIKES SAID THAT THE WORLD HAS YET TO RECOGNIZE SOVIET INTRUSION IN AFRICA AND DOES NOT UNDERSTAND ITS TRUE DIMENSIONS. HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED AT NATO HEADQUARTERS ON THIS ISSUE AND SAID THE SOVIETS ARE ATTEMPTING TO BUILD IN AFRICA THE BIGGEST EMPIRE IN WORLD HISTORY. THE U.S. HAD BEEN DIVERTED ELSEWHERE FOR TOO LONG BY WATERGATE, VIET NAM AND OTHER PROBLEMS. IT IS NOW TIME FOR THE U.S. TO LOOK TOWARDS AFRICA.

4. PRESIDENT SADAT REFERRED TO HIS CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT CARTER EARLIER THIS YEAR, SAYING HE HAD STRESSED THE AFRICAN DIMENSION IN HIS WASHINGTON TALKS. HE POINTED OUT THAT HE FACES SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CHAD, NIGER, ETHIOPIA AND OTHER STATES IN AFRICA. CONGRESSMAN SIKES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CAIRO 13536 01 OF 02 151729Z

SAID HE HAD JUST COME FROM CHAD AND DISCOVERED CHADIAN LEADERS ANXIOUS TO HAVE AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE. THEY RECOGNIZE WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THEIR COUNTRY: IN THE NORTH LARGE AREAS ARE UNDER THE CONTROL OF INSURGENTS ARMED AND CONTROLLED BY QADHAFI. THE CHADIANS LACK, ROADS, BRIDGES AND OTHER BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH COULD ALLOW THEM MORE EASILY TO CONTROL THEIR COUNTRY. THE U.S. IS MOVING AHEAD TO HELP IN THIS AREA.

5. SADAT POINTED OUT THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS BEHIND QADAFHI'S MACHINATIONS IN CHAD. CONGRESSMAN SIKES AGREED, SAYING THE SOVIETS WANT BOTH LAND AND PEOPLE. HE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT SADAT FOR THE EFFORTS HE HAS EXERTED TO COUNTER THIS IN AFRICA.

6. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID HE HAS SENT 80 TONS OF WAR MATERIEL TO CHAD DESPITE SEVERE LIMITATIONS ON HIS OWN SUPPLIES. THE CONGRESSMAN SAID HE HOPES THE UNITED STATES WILL SOON HELP IN THIS EFFORT. HE NOTED THAT THE AVERAGE CHADIAN CITIZEN DOES NOT YET REALIZE WHAT IS HAPPENING ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT DOES AND IS FULLY AWARE OF WHO

IS BEHIND THIS. CHADIAN LEADERS ARE EXTREMELY ANGRY WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

7. PRESIDENT SADAT POINTED OUT THAT THE SOVIET UNION USES MILITARY SUPPLIES AS A POLITICAL LEVER. THE SOVIETS HAVE DONE THIS IN ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA AND CHAD. THEY TRIED TO DO THIS IN EGYPT. CONGRESSMAN SIKES REPLIED THAT CHADIAN LEADERS NOW REALIZE THIS SINCE THEY ARE UNABLE TO GET SPARE PARTS OR AMMUNITION FOR THEIR WEAPONS. BECAUSE OF THIS, THEY ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR EGYPT'S HELP. ADDITIONALLY, HOWEVER, CHAD NEEDS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO BUILD A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WHICH WILL ENABLE CHAD TO DEVELOP ITS ECONOMY. CHAD RAISES LARGE NUMBERS OF CATTLE WHICH IT COULD SELL IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 CAIRO 13536 01 OF 02 151729Z

IF THEY COULD BE SHIPPED. THE CONGRESSMAN CONCLUDED, AGAIN, THAT CHAD IS VERY GRATEFUL FOR EGYPT'S ASSISTANCE.

8. PRESIDENT SADAT URGED THE UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE THE DIMENSIONS OF SOVIET PENETRATION IN AFRICA. EGYPT, HE SAID, WAS FIGHTING ITS BATTLE IN AFRICA. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID HE HAS BEEN EXCHANGING MESSAGES ON THE AFRICAN SITUATION WITH PRESIDENT CARTER BUT THERE HAS BEEN, AS YET, NO PRACTICAL CHANGE IN AMERICAN POLICY. THE TIME FACTOR, HE SAID, IS VERY IMPORTANT AND EGYPT NEEDS ASSISTANCE TO FULFILL ITS ROLE IN AFRICA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 13536 02 OF 02 152349Z
ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 NEA-07 ISO-00 EUR-08 H-03 SS-07
NSC-06 /037 W

-----045152 160001Z /70

R 151525Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8318
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 CAIRO 13536

9. CONGRESSMAN SIKES EMPHASIZED HIS DESIRE TO HAVE MORE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS VISIT THIS AREA TO LEARN THE SITUATION FIRST HAND. UNFORTUNATELY, DURING THE RECESS MOST MEMBERS OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ARE TRAVELING WITHIN EUROPE. THE CONGRESSMAN SAID HIS TRAVEL GREW OUT OF A DESIRE TO SEE MORE COUNTRIES WHERE THE UNITED STATES COULD HELP. HE NOTED THAT, ASIDE FROM EGYPT, HE IS VISITING CHAD, SOMALIA, YEMEN, SUDAN AND DJIBOUTI. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE CONGRESSMAN CONGRATULATED PRE-SIDENT SADAT FOR ASSISTING IN WEANING SOMALIA AWAY FROM THE SOVIETS. HE CONGRATULATED THE PRESIDENT ALSO FOR HIS TREATMENT OF QADHAFI. CONGRESSMAN SIKES SAID PRESIDENT SADAT HAD DONE THE WORLD A GRAT SERVICE IN TEACHING THE LIBYAN LEADER A LESSON. AT TIMES, IN POLITICS AS IN FAMILY LIFE, IT IS NECESSARY TO SPANK AN ERRING CHILD. CONGRESSMAN SIKES PREDICTED THAT QADHAFI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 13536 02 OF 02 152349Z

WOULD NOT REMAIN IN OFFICE FOR VERY LONG.

10. PRESIDENT SADAT AGREED AND RELATED AN ARAB PROVERB TO THE EFFECT WHEN ONE KILLS A SNAKE YOU MUST HIT AT ITS HEAD. THIS HE HAD DONE. ALL OF THE SOVIET TROUBLE IN AFRICA, HE MAINTAINED, CAN BE TRACED TO QADHAFI.

11. PRESIDENT SADAT ASKED THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO ATTACH GREATER IMPORTANCE IN GENERAL TO EVENTS IN AFRICA. HE NOTED THAT, IN THE TWO YEARS PERIOD BEFORE THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, THE SOVIET UNION STARTED A MAJOR BUILD UP IN AFRICA. HE RECALLED WARNING PRESIDENT CARTER THAT EVENTS IN ZAIRE WOULD BE REPEATED IN ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA AND SUDAN. THIS WAS NOW HAPPENING.

12. REFERRING TO FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY'S RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW, PRESIDENT SADAT REPORTED THAT THE RESSIANS SENT HIM AN ULTIMATUM ON EGYPTIAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA. IN RESPONSE, HE SAID, HE HAD DECLARED THAT EGYPT WOULD CONTINUE TOSUPPORT THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH ARE THREATENED AND WILL NOT TOLERATE THE OVERTHROW OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS. IN PARTICULAR, HE TOLD THE SOVIETS THAT ANY AGGRESSION AGAINST

SUDAN WILL BE REGARDED AS AGGRESSION AGAINST EGYPT.
IN REPLY, THE RUSSIANS INFORMED EGYPT THAT NOTHING WOULD
HAPPEN IN SUDAN, THEREBY DEMONSTRATING, TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S
SATISFACTION, THEIR COMPLETE CONTROL OVER EVENTS IN THE
REGION.

13. CONGRESSMAN SIKES SAID THE SITUATION IN THE UNITED
STATES IS CHANGING, AS ARE U.S. PERSPECTIVES ON EVENTS IN
AFRICA. THE UNITED STATES MUST ACCEPT ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE.
WITH WATERGATE AND VIET NAM OVER, THE CLIMATE IN
CONGRESS IS BETTER THAN IT HAS BEEN FOR SEVERAL YEARS.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CAIRO 13536 02 OF 02 152349Z

HE ASSURED PRESIDENT SADAT THAT UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL
SUPPORT FOR EGYPTIAN POLICY IN AFRICA WILL INCREASE.
PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THIS "WOULD BE MARVELOUS." CONTINUING,
CONGRESSMAN SIKES ASSURED THE PRESIDENT THAT CONGRESS
WILL BE MORE WILLING TO ACCEPT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AND
TO VOTE THE MONEY NECESSARY TO FULFILL THIS.

14. PRESIDENT SADAT RELATED HIS EXPERIENCE IN SUPPLYING
SOMALIA WITH MILITARY ASSISTANCE. PRESIDENT SIAD HAD
ORDERED THE FIRST EGYPTIAN FLIGHTS TO LAND AT MOGADISCIO
"IN FRONT OF THE RUSSIANS, TO SHOW THEM THAT EGYPT WAS
HELPING." THIS DEMONSTRATES, HE CONCLUDED, SIAD'S
ATTITUDE: HE IS DEFYING THE RUSSIANS AND "WE SHOULD
HELP HIM." THE TIME FACTOR, THE PRESIDENT SAID AGAIN,
"IS VITAL."

15. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID EGYPT DOES NOT WANT AMERICAN
SOLDIERS FIGHTING IN AFRICA BUT ASKED THAT THE UNITED
STATES NOT IMPOSE AN ARMS EMBARGO "AS HAS THE USSR."
THE SOVIET UNION HAS SHIPPED NOTHING TO EGYPT FOR THREE
YEARS. THE SOVIETS HAVE CANCELLED ALL ARMS AGREEMENTS
AND TOLD FAHMY TO SEND A DELEGATION TO NEGOTIATE FOR ANY
NEW SALES. THIS, SADAT SAID, MEANS THAT THERE WOULD BE NO
SUPPLIES FOR YEARS. IN ADDITION, THE SOVIETS DEMAND
THAT ANY FUTURE SALES BE FOR HARD CURRENCY. IF EGYPT
HAD THIS IT WOULD NOT BUY LOW TECHNOLOGY SOVIET ARMS
BUT WOULD PURCHASE SUPERIOR SYSTEMS ELSEWHERE.

16. CONGRESSMAN SIKES CONCLUDED THE MEETING BY REITERATING THE
IMPORTANCE OF ADDITIONAL CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL TO AFRICA. HE
TOLD PRESIDENT SADAT CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES ARE CHANGING
AS A RESULT OF SOVIET PENETRATION IN AFRICA AND SAID
IT WAS APPARENT THAT THE UNITED STATES MUST MOVE NOW.

17. PORTION OF THE CONVERSATION DEALING WITH ARMS
SUPPLIES TO CHAD AND SOMALIA COVERED SEPTTEL.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 CAIRO 13536 02 OF 02 152349Z

17. MESSAGE HAS NOT BEEN CLEARED BY CODEL AND IS SUBJECT
TO ANYREVISIONS HE MAY WISH MAKE.
EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO13536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770293-1384
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770863/aaaacape.tel
Line Count: 287
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6320f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION A
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1605369
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL SIKES MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT SUMMARY. IN AUGUST 14 MEETING WITH CODEL SIKES, SADAT URGED U.S. PAY GREATER ATTENTION TO AFRICA AND SAI
TAGS: OREP, EG, (SIKES, ROBERT L F)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6320f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009